

The Evening World

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THE SLUMP IN MELLER METHODS.

THE FIRST DUTY of a railroad is to be a railroad. The New York, New Haven and Hartford has squandered its substance and betrayed its stockholders by trying to be something else. That is the gist of the thirty thousand words in which the Interstate Commerce Commission weighs Mr. Meller and his policy in the balance and finds them wanting. The fairness of the report in giving credit where credit is due gives added force to its scathing condemnation of the Meller theory of railroading.

The outside financial operations of the New Haven Company for the last nine years have been wasteful to the extreme. The present management of that company started out with the purpose of controlling the transportation facilities of New England. In the accomplishment of this purpose it bought what must be had and paid what must be paid. To this purpose and its attempted execution can be traced every one of these financial misfortunes and derelictions.

In no uncertain terms the Commission declares that the New Haven road's absorption of trolley lines in four States is bad and pernicious railroading.

Every interstate railroad should be prohibited from expending money or incurring liabilities or acquiring property not in the operation of its railroad or in the legitimate improvement, extension or development of that railroad.

The agreement with the Boston and Albany "is violative of the spirit of the statute against the restraint of competition and should be cancelled." The merger with the Boston and Maine is in the nature of a monopoly. If the New Haven had been content to be a railroad and had not spent \$304,000,000 in nine years on operations outside its railroad sphere, the Commission asserts "it could have paid a dividend of 8 per cent. for the fiscal year 1912 and carried to surplus account \$1,794,000, instead of showing a deficit of \$930,000.

The stockholders of this great road are learning what their brilliant president has cost them. They are to be pitied, although, as the Commission points out, they are in theory responsible for the management which their action or possibly their failure to act has sanctioned. "If the stockholders of these properties, instead of vilifying the critics of the New Haven, had given some attention to the charges made, their property would to-day be of greater value."

Almost coincident with the Commission's report Mr. Meller resigned from the presidency of the Boston and Maine. He admitted that in an executive sense he had bitten off more than he could chew. His road now finds itself staggering under the load of his inordinate and complicated schemes of aggrandizement. By the time the New Haven has recovered its balance and got back to its proper business of running a common carrier for its patrons, it will at least have taught stockholders in railroad corporations all over the country a salutary lesson:

The Meller type of railroad president who looks upon his office as a vantage point for vast manipulation and high finance is too costly a luxury for most stockholders. The business of a railroad is to do the work the public has a right to expect of it. The business of stockholders is to see that their executives hold to that view of their profession. The Meller theory of railroading is exploded.

A NOTORIOUS SPENDER.

PPOINT IS ADDED to Collector Mitchell's proposal for a city "graft staff" to check up expenditures by the figures with which the Bureau of Municipal Research shows how far estimates for public work fall short of the ultimate outlay.

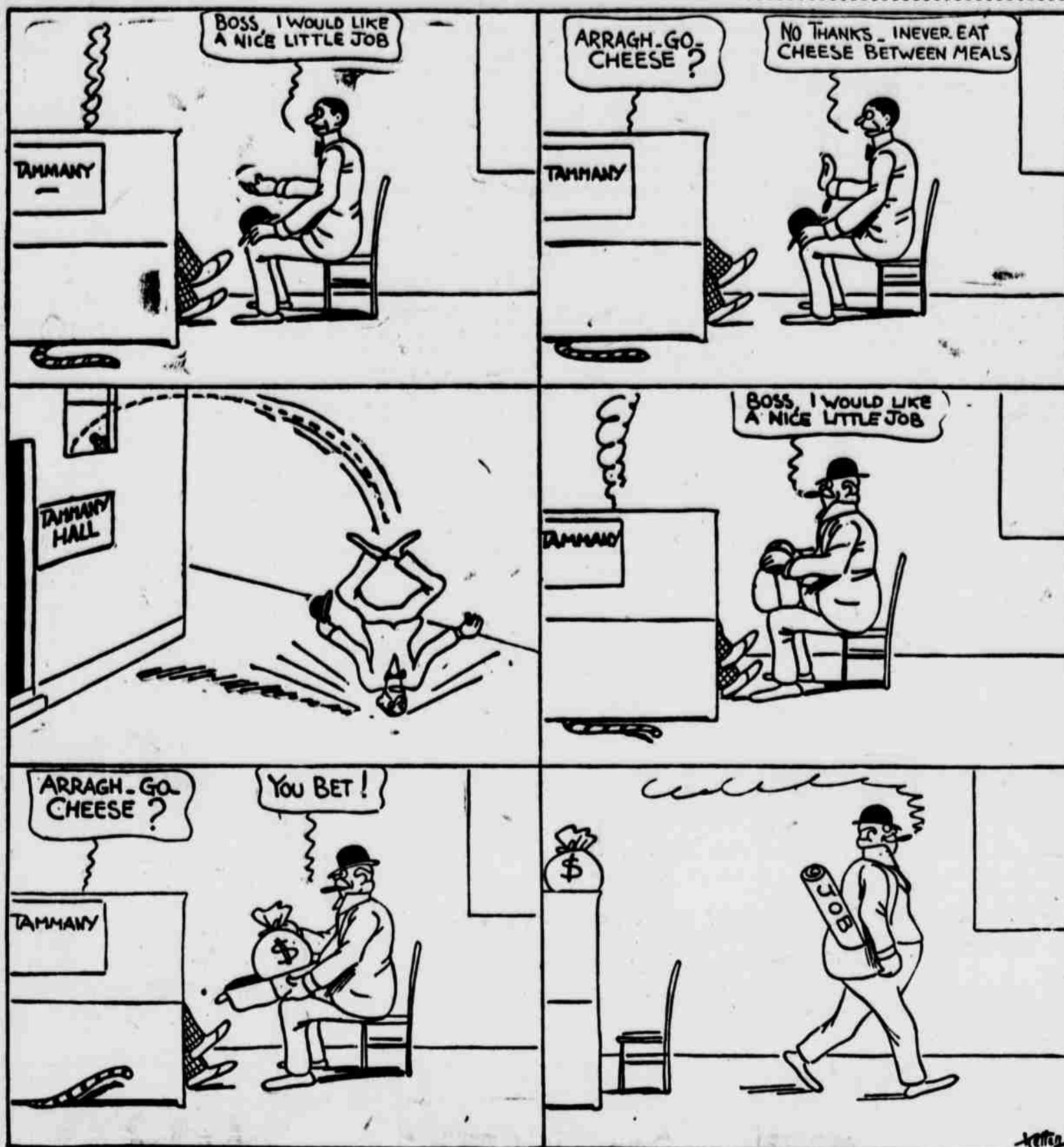
The Sea View Hospital was planned to cost \$2,000,000. Three million six hundred and twenty-seven thousand dollars have already been spent on it, and before it is finished it will have cost \$4,000,000, twice as much as estimated. The original estimate on the Hall of Records was \$3,500,000. It cost \$5,970,000. Manhattan Bridge was expected to cost \$15,800,000. It actually ran to \$28,500,000. Eight hundred thousand dollars was thought enough to build the Bronx Court House. Up to date it has cost \$1,086,000. The Bureau of Municipal Research urges that contracts be standardized and investigated, and that any additions to the original estimate be published with full reasons and itemized costs.

Between \$75,000,000 and \$100,000,000 of the city's money is spent every year for public works. Any private corporation spending a hundredth part as much on contracts would have long ago devised a cost iron system of scrutiny and checking. The present Board of Estimate and Apportionment have worked out a method of procedure for handling contracts, but there is no legislation to make it perfect or permanent. Why must 5,000,000 people see their money spent year after year with a wastefulness that not one of them would tolerate for a day in his private business?

"Arragh-Go-Cheese"

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By Maurice Ketten



Reflections of a Bachelor Girl

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I T isn't a man's voluntary gallantry to a pretty woman, but that little involuntary glint in his eye at the sight of one, that gets on his wife's nerves.

To a well-trained husband life at a summer resort is just one hood-and-eye after another.

No man was ever so bald that a woman couldn't make him blush with pleasure by remarking what a pretty color his hair must have been.

After seeing the "Boston" or the "One-Step" one concludes that the turkey-trot by any other name would be just as sweet.

The only way to keep a husband as devoted as a poodle and as meek as a minced lamb on toast is to convince him that he is an adored luxury, but not a real, vital necessity.

When men gaze at a girl in a slashed skirt it is usually with amusement, because no man ever took any real interest in looking at ankles that were meant to be seen.

After a few years of marriage a man gets such a case of myopia that he can look straight at his wife for ten solid minutes without seeing her.

The way to man's heart is through digestion; and the real secret of domestic bliss lies in knowing when to administer a dose of papain and when to keep out of his way.

Don't try to impress your husband by introducing him to your old sweethearts, because to him they will never appear anything but "good-natured boobies" and "easy marks."

A Plea for Children On Summer Streets

By Sophie Irene Loeb.

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WOMAN signing herself "Mrs. Seymour" writes to The Evening World as follows:

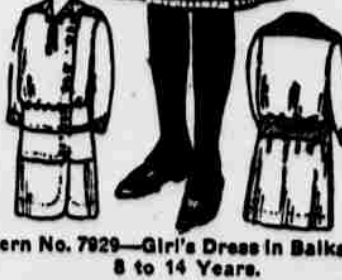
"Now that the schools are closing a huge army of children are thrown into the city streets, with no studying or work to do, and with inadequate means of healthful amusement. This is a grave responsibility, not only for parents but for the city and State as well. If you, driver man, find your way obstructed by children at play, give them the chime of cheer rather than the howl of censure. If you are a woman of leisure and your neighborhood children are at play, help the good work along—teach them HOW to play. If you have some extra money to spend, take a few children down to the beach and give them a day's outing. The joy of it will act like a rubber ball and rebound to you. And you, Mr. Policeman, in the park, if a boy throws a ball in the air when you tell him not to, don't put him in jail for it. You would not like to be there yourself, as big as you are; and even if you must enforce the law and see that the "keep off the grass" sign is obeyed, the Recording Angel won't hold it against you if you do NOT score the wit out of a little, rolling, was-tot on the green-though, in the main, law and order must reign. Shrubs and trees go on forever, but the children of man have only a little while to play, and a VERY LITTLE while to play. And there are many ways and means to help the children get what is just coming to them in the way of play. It is for you and me to be glad of any chance to help the children get most out of these bydays while their "readin', writin' and 'rithmetic" time is suspended.

What is to be done? If they are talking playgrounds in your community, talk along. Use your civic voice in the interest of more places of pleasure for the little ones. It is suspended.

It is a solemn duty. It is so. The streets are full of little toties, especially during the summer season, when they fairly swarm there. For summer time, and play, and children, all go together. It is a responsibility, not only for the city and the home, but for YOU and ME. While the statistician says we do not have enough playgrounds and most of these few playgrounds are so far removed from the needy precincts that it is a problem indeed to get the children there, yet there are many things in the immediate present that can be done. What is to be done? If they are talking playgrounds in your community, talk along. Use your civic voice in the interest of more places of pleasure for the little ones. It is suspended.

The May Manton Fashions

HERE is a charming little frock that includes all the newest features and at the same time is quite simple and easy to make. It consists of a blouse in the Balkan style and a three-piece skirt. The blouse can be made with or without the pailon, which is joined to it at the lower edge when used, and can be closed on the diagonal line shown in the front view or on a straight line a little to the left of the front. The collar and the rolled-over cuffs that finish the elbow sleeves are especially pretty features. The edges of the pailon and the edges of the skirt can be finished with round corners if liked. The material illustrated is a checked rayon with collar and cuffs of white and the result is very charming. For the 12-year size the dress will require 5-6 yards of material 37, 4 yards 36 or 3-1/2 yards 44 inches wide, with 5-8 yard 21 inches wide for the collar and cuffs. Pattern No. 7929 is cut in sizes for girls of 12, 13, 14 and 15 years of age. Pattern No. 7929—Girl's Dress in Balkan Style, 8 to 14 Years.



The Jarr Family

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BY ROY L. MCGOWAN

buttoning in the back are going out." "Women are going out of the dresses, you mean," returned Mr. Jarr. "And the pumps that are new in vogue," Mrs. Jarr continued, not minding his remark. "What woman needs a man to tie her ties now?" "Women who are not engaged," said Mr. Jarr. "Whose laces were also to be included in the ties that bind." "They are not wearing laces except this summer, I tell you," retorted Mrs. Jarr. "And it will be many a year before the big sleeve comes in again." "Well, what of it?" asked Mr. Jarr. "Women do not need the confidential attentions of men in tucking in the big sleeves of their dresses when they put on outer wraps," explained Mrs. Jarr. "We shoes to tie, no backs to hook or button, no sleeves to tuck in, well, I should become depressed," said Mr. Jarr. "I've got my summer dresses to go away with, but—" "But what?" asked Mr. Jarr. "But if I do get some material and some dresses made we will not have the money to go away this summer." "Anything to make you happy. I'm satisfied to stay in town. Get your dresses and let us not tie us to Arctady." "But what will people say? Everybody goes away," whimpered Mrs. Jarr. "Well, let us buy two weeks at the seashore instead of the new dresses for the autumn's countless round of social triumphs," suggested Mr. Jarr. "Then I won't have anything to wear this fall and winter," said Mrs. Jarr sadly, "and what will people say?" Mr. Jarr scratched his head. "Better get the dresses," he declared. "If everybody is away but us, how'll they know we didn't go to the seashore or the mountains too. But if you don't get dresses they'll notice that, and they'll say you can't afford new toilettes." "Yes, that's just what they will say," whimpered Mrs. Jarr. "Oh, dear! I wish I knew what to do."

Mr. Jarr Adds to His Ignorance Concerning Feminine Fashions

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Learn One Thing Every Day

How to Gain a Fund of General Information

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86.—THE VOICE.
VOICE is produced by currents of air vibrating through the vocal cords that are stretched across our "voice-box" or larynx. The vocal cords are made of elastic tissue, so wonderfully fine and flexible that it puts any man-made elastic to shame. The cords tighten and relax automatically. When they are tight, the current of air that strikes them makes them vibrate, to produce a high tone. When they are relaxed a low tone is produced, just as in a violin string. The box that contains the vocal cords is made of cartilage and lies in the forward part of the throat. It is sometimes visible and is called "Adam's apple." Behind the larynx is the entrance to the gullet, which leads to the stomach. The danger of having food or liquid enter the larynx instead of the gullet is admirably taken care of by nature. The larynx has a little hinged cover also of cartilage. It is called the epiglottis. Every time we swallow the epiglottis closes over the larynx. In old age the cartilage hardens and the tissues grow less elastic. This is why an "old" voice is easily distinguishable from a young one.

Beany and the Gang

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By P. L. Crosby

